

Serial No. 09/880,583
Atty. Doc. No. 01P10732US

Response To Rejections Under Section 102:

Claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), the Examiner contending that these claims are anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,633,477 to Smith et al., which is commonly assigned to Siemens Westinghouse Power Corporation and which Applicant is also a coinventor "Applicant's Prior Invention".

Applicant's Prior Invention is directed to the field of reinforcing or molding materials impregnated with a synthetic resin (i.e. prepreg), and teaches using the electrically conductive prepreg to suppress corona discharge. (See Invention Background and Title, among other places). In contrast, Applicant's present invention is directed to an electrical isolation layer and teaches using the isolation layer to electrically isolate or insulate two conductive materials from each other. (See Invention Background and Title, among other places). In short, Applicant's Prior Invention relates to an electrical conductor whereas Applicant's present invention relates to an electrical insulator.

The Examiner contends that Applicant's Prior Invention clearly teaches an electrical isolation layer system comprising "a nomex spun laced felt having a dielectric strength of at least 300 volts per millimeter interposed at least partially between the copper strands and the roebel filler". Applicant respectfully disagrees. In particular, among other things, Applicant's Prior Invention does not disclose, as suggested by the Examiner, in column 2 line 58 - column 3 line 28 or anywhere else: (1) an electrical isolation layer, let alone one comprising a nomex spun laced felt, that is (2) interposed at least partially between copper strands and roebel filler.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the Section 102 rejection.

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CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action are inapplicable to the present claims. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider the rejections and timely pass the application to allowance.

The undersigned has made a good faith effort to respond to all of the rejections in the application and to place the claims in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this paper or application, or if any undeveloped issues or questions remain, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney to resolve such issue or question. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this paper. The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees due in connection with this paper or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2179.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 12/16/12

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